

## McCaffrey the Bold.

### The Adventures of a Bashful Snide Reporter.

#### HE USED TO LIVE IN FRESNO.

#### Across the Pacific With Miss Bland.

#### He Is Stranded in Hongkong.

#### But Still Hopeful.

A good many people remember Philip McCaffrey, an alleged newspaper reporter, who played a brilliant engagement in this city several months ago. He worked a few weeks on The Republican as a reporter, was discharged for drunkenness, incompetency and general carelessness, and as the custom goes in such cases, became a shining light on the staff of the Evening Expressor. In the course of time he succeeded in beating nearly everybody in Fresno out of something, a la "Young Mr. Harlow," and was compelled to seek new pastures elsewhere. He was, however, not long living by means known only to people of his versatile accomplishments. He got employment on the Call at 48 a week, and was sent on an errand with Mike McSherry to take deep-sea soundings. He became noted as the cheekiest man on the post.

#### HE PUT HIS OAK IN.

While acting as a Call reporter he once attended a meeting of the Bay District Jockey Club, and after the first whistle got through, McCaffrey turned to M. F. Tarpey, the Chairman, and gravely remarked:

"Mr. Tarpey you would oblige me if you would have the witness repeat his testimony again. The reporters here did not catch the drift of his remarks."

The other reporters were puzzled for a moment. Finally, after a disconcerting pause, in which heartbeats could be heard, J. P. Cosgrave, of the Examiner, said: "Understood what the witness said, and nobody has authorized Mr. McCaffrey to speak for us."

G. A. Low, of the Alta, remarked something to the same effect, and the Chronicle man also put in his oar likewise.

#### A GENTLE REQUEST.

Mr. Tarpey had met Mr. McCaffrey before, and upon Mr. McCaffrey repeating his demand, replied coolly:

"Mr. McCaffrey, if you will be kind enough to allow this committee to conduct this examination."

"Certainly, Mr. Tarpey," replied McCaffrey with his inimitable gall, "but I didn't catch on to the drift of the witness' remarks. Now, sir, just let me hear you repeat what you just made the witness repeat what he has been talking about for the last half hour."

"It's not necessary, Mr. McCaffrey," said Mr. Tarpey with a wicked glance in his eye.

#### MR. McCAFFREY'S BULL.

After the witness had answered two or three more questions, McCaffrey, with a smile that culminated in the immoderate lights, broke in upon the monotonous:

"Really, Mr. Tarpey, I can't understand a thing out of this. This fellow has been talking about 'I'll allow me' and 'I think I can elucidate more perspectives. I will ask this dufer a few questions, which I think will enlighten his lucidity. Now, sir, just let me hear you repeat what you just made the witness repeat what he has been talking about for the last half hour.'"

"Hold on!" exclaimed the other reporters. "We haven't requested you to talk for us."

"Mr. McCaffrey," continued Mr. Tarpey, "I have expressed all the foregoing with you that the world will hear you again, I'll throw you down stairs. Do you understand?"

McCaffrey, for the first time in his life, blushed in public. An extra man, who was doing the dinner, saw the one of the papers, looked at the angry McCaffrey with a grin, and whispered:

"Sore."

"Do you mean to say that I'm a snipe?" demanded the wretched fellow. "I wouldn't swear to it," was the reply.

"Then you'd better not, or I'd thump you in the jaw," was the defiant warning of the man of unparliamentary gall.

McCaffrey's latest exploit happened at the time that the world was in San Francisco on the China steamer on her race around the world against Nelly Rye. He appeared on the Mail dock about an hour before the steamer sailed and announced to the waiter that he had a letter from the world with Miss Bland as the correspondent of the Examiner. He exhibited a letter written on the letter-head of the Examiner and signed "W. R. Hearst," authorizing him to act in that capacity, and stating that the Board of the Pacific would be responsible for all his expenses.

He had just recovered from a six weeks' jaund, and his clothes were very seamy, and when some of the reporters scoffed at him he calmly beckoned to a young Pacific-street Hebrew, who had a bundle under his arm, and the two retired to the wharfing's office, from which McCaffrey emerged fifteen minutes later clad in gorgeous traveling raiment. He had obtained his ticket on the forged Examiner's letter, and he walked grandly on board, stopping here and there in lofty farewell to the curious onlookers on the wharf.

On the voyage he borrowed \$20 from Miss Bland, but when he arrived at Hongkong a telegram blockaded his further progress. The dispatch was to Mr. Hearst announcing that McCaffrey's credentials were forged. He managed to exist in some way or other until Nellie Rye arrived there coming East, and she gave him a dollar to get something to eat with.

But McCaffrey is one of those men whom misfortune cannot down. He will turn up again in California with new credentials as advance agent for a log show, and will dazzle the dull intellects of the common people with the light refulgence of his genius.

#### THE MACKS' LEVEE.

#### A Batch of Them Arrested Before Dawn Yesterday.

Several days ago City Marshal Barker instructed Officers Anderson, Zener and Watson to raid the macks and known thieves that have no long intended

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#### A Missing Steamer.

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## THE TRAIN ROBBERS.

### Further Particulars From the Scene of the Affair.

#### TWO COOL, DESPERATE MEN.

#### They Carried Away a Potato Sack Full of Wells, Fargo & Co's Treasure.

The following account of the recent train robbery near Goshen is taken from the Pullman Register:

Another train robbery occurred this morning and again the engineer and fireman of a passenger train have been forced at the muzzle of a shotgun to call upon the express messenger to open the car door. Headed also has resulted, and, in fact, the tragedy at Pixley eleven months ago seems to have been reproduced with only a change of location.

#### LA GRIPPE.

A Doctor Who Prescribes Coffee and Quinine Without Whiskey.

[Imbiber just emerging from the room with cigar in hand, meets his doctor.]

Imbiber—Oh! Ah! Doctor, you see I have been taking "an ounce of prevention." You see, Doctor, something about the La Grippe, I am very much concerned about it. What say you?

Doctor—Oh! Nothing. Nothing! Imbiber—Come, Doctor (taking him by the arm), I beg you tell me about La Grippe. Do you think I'll catch it?

Doctor—Indeed! Why? We doctors are delighted. We think it a very good thing; equal to smallpox. We expect quite a boom.

Imbiber—Horrible! Horrible! Are doctors afraid of smallpox?

Doctor—Who ever heard of a sensible Doctor having smallpox? The doctor conforms to the laws of health unless he is a fool. If so, neither he nor his patients last long, especially the saloon boys and the sick patient.

Imbiber—Stop, Doctor, or you will drive me mad. Tell me, won't the whiskey and quinine keep it off?

Doctor—My friend, you remind me of the old Mississippi steamboat captain, who, before the Mississippi river was paralleled by railroads, was always with steamboats. Well, every Captain had the fastest boat, and they were continually racing with each other, and the fastest boat was the cheapest because it was the fastest and was constantly used to make extra haul during these exciting races, so entertaining to the patrons of the boat. At that time steamboat explosions ranked in interest with the racing of the boats, with the railroad disasters of our day.

Imbiber—Please, Doctor, don't detain me. I feel quite faint again. Tell me, quickly.

Doctor—Well, only a word more. Doing one of those races, while the vessel ran side by side, straight ahead, the current laid with each other, neither gaining an inch on the other, an engineer rushed up to the other, and exclaimed: "Captain, we will burst the old boiler, more bacon, more bacon, more whiskey, fire up. Get us away from the disaster!" shouted the Captain.

Imbiber—Flood morning, Doctor. You alone can save me. Tell me, quickly.

Doctor—Stop, stop, my friend. Indeed you look pale. Take my advice, (pointing to a sign across the way). "W. G. T. Union coffee rooms." "Coffee and sandwiches, 10 cents." (To quickly, take a little fine coffee with your quinine and you need not fear La Grippe.)

Citizen—If! Ah! Well, Doctor, that was good advice. See your patient. He enters the coffee-rooms. Poor fellow, he is alarmed. Hold, hold, Doctor, he says a question. I heard all you said.

Doctor—Gentlemen (to the crowd) if you want professional advice you know my office hours.

Citizen—One word only, Doctor. Does not your Medical Medicine sanction the use of stimulants?

Doctor—It does. Stimulants properly administered are among our most valuable remedies. Depression is the forerunner of disease. Reaction is often violent and precipitates inflammation. Here the aid of the intelligent physician comes in with his finger on the pulse and his eye on the thermometer, he graduates the reaction and kills the situation.

Take my advice, when you must die, die decently, scientifically, if you do not wish to be ashamed of your own post-mortem. Take the course that will postpone your autopsy for a reasonable time. Because you will not take advice because you like your whiskey and you can't "let it alone." ENIGMATIC.

#### ROYAL WITFALLS.

Some of the Fat Pickings of the English Treasury.

A remarkable return recently presented to the Imperial Parliament shows the receipts and expenditures of the Treasury Solicitor during 1888 in the administration of estates reverting to the Crown by reason of the owners dying intestate, and the balance of the year was £204,282 8s. 4d., and, after various payments, they reached, at the close of the year, the sum of £238,067 8s. 4d. It is interesting to note that the Crown's estate, real and personal property of the value of £248,198 9s. 9d. were waived, and that a sum of £22,692, bequeathed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by a would-be national debt extinguisher (probably the late O'Reilly Dease), has been transferred to a small account. In a schedule is given an alphabetical list of seventy estates which fell to the Crown during the year, with the names and addresses of the interested parties, but the schedule does not contain the names of the persons interested in these "windfalls," is not stated. It appears, however, from Parliamentary returns on the subject, that since the passing of the Treasury Solicitor Act, 1876, under which these estates have been administered, considerably over £1,000,000 has been received by the "Crown's nominee." This enormous total has, no doubt, been largely made up from exceptionally large "windfalls," among others the following: £140,000 from the late Duke of Devonshire; £250,000 from the undisposed of residue of the estate of Mr. George Perkins; £204,000 in the Heathcote case and £100,000 in the Bond case. Two hundred thousand pounds also fell to the Crown some years since from the estate of Miss Mangin Brown, but in response to official advertisements for next of kin, claimants appeared, and eventually succeeded in establishing their title to the estate.—Sidney Herald.

#### How Savages Make Fire.

It is rather difficult for us to imagine people who know nothing about fire,

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#### AFTERNOON DISPATCHES.

#### ON THEIR TRAIL.

Officers Still Searching for the Train Robbers.

Goshen, January 23.—After the robbery of the train yesterday Deputy Sheriff Harris of Goshen and a posse followed a plain-trail from the railroad to a tree one mile east, where two horses had been killed. The hair that was left on the tree showed that one horse was gray and the other sorrel. Here the body had been fastened upon one of the horses, which was then led by the man who carried the gun. The other robber rode in the rear.

At one place, where there was a bed of deep sand, the pack-horse had fallen on its side and had jerked his head down, as the prints of his knees and hands were very plainly marked. The posse followed the trail until it was a mile and a half long, showing that it was a muzzle-loading shotgun. The trail was easily followed to where it entered the main road, over three miles from the railroad and about three miles east of Goshen, where it could be followed but a short distance. One of the robbers wore No. 7 and the other No. 9 shoes.

A large number of people are scouring the country about Visalia and it is quite possible the robbers may be caught.

Visalia, January 23.—Deputy Sheriff Harris and Captain H. B. Stone started this morning for Visalia, looking for the train robbers. No trace has yet been discovered. It is now quite certain the telegram line between Visalia and Hanford was cut by the robbers.

Los Angeles, January 23.—Express Messenger Minnahan, whose car was entered at Goshen by masked men on Tuesday night, was in San Francisco shortly after his arrival here, taking his accounts with him before they had been made up. The officers of Wells, Fargo & Co. desire to consult with him there. It is impossible to tell the exact amount taken, but it will not exceed \$1000. Packages consigned to this city to the amount of \$100 are part of the booty secured.

#### CANADA'S ANNEXATION.

Senators Hagar and Doherty Said to Be Axious to Further the Scheme.

OTTAWA, January 23.—There is much talk about the Empire's exposure of the Toronto Mail's attempt to boom annexation. The Empire's commissioner appointed to investigate at Washington, reports that Senators Hagar and Doherty are anxious to further the scheme. "The commissioner was present when the subject was discussed by Hagar's committee, the members of the committee. Senator Doherty said: 'It is true that Porter of the Mail made a statement to the Committee on Canadian Relations of Legislation by Congress looking to a general reciprocity. If the reciprocity is deferred Canada could be coerced into annexation. The commissioner thinks a deep conspiracy is afoot to accomplish the annexation.'

The situation to-night is practically unchanged on the Central Pacific and Oregon lines, and the snow-bound passengers are up nearer freedom than they were several days ago. Snow is falling fast and freezing as soon as it falls.

CORVAX, Cal., January 23.—The rotary plow has reached within one mile of Corvax. The track is free to that point from here. The company are making efforts to raise the blockade to-night, but it is very improbable that the trains will move before to-morrow. Over 1200 men are at work between Alta and the Summit. Forty-five engines are released between these points. It is expected that train No. 4, the west-bound mail, will pass through here at 6 A. M. to-morrow, and the east-bound trains held here and consolidated will pass out. The only danger now is that the renewed storm between Alta and Summit may fill the tracks cleared in the deep cuts. Small snow slides have occurred frequently beyond Alta during the day. One mile of track remains closed, and 700 men are at work shoveling out towards the rotary, which is coming west.

A Mania's Death.—The Storm. STOCKTON, January 23.—Joseph Mead, an insane man, who was arrested yesterday morning, died this afternoon in jail. Mead was violently crazy to-day, and worked himself into a perspiration in his cell. The jailer went out to find an arresting officer to have the man committed to the asylum, and returning to the jail found Mead stretched dead on the floor of his cell. Death is supposed to have resulted from congestion of the brain.

After a hard wind from the south, it commenced raining this morning, with indications of a heavy storm. The roads are in a bad condition, and business is dull because haulers cannot get into town.

SACRAMENTO'S Charter. SACRAMENTO, January 23.—At a meeting of prominent citizens to-night it was decided to ask the City Trustees to withdraw the call for an election of a Board of Freeholders to frame a new charter. It is not believed a charter could be adopted legally until after an election had been held on the constitutional amendment passed by the last Legislature, providing for the repeal of all laws inconsistent with the government of cities.

A Seditious Family. SAN FRANCISCO, January 23.—Frederick Gaith, a Bavarian, aged about 46, shot himself through the head this morning, inflicting a fatal wound. He had no money and was without work. His brother attempted suicide by drowning a few days ago, but was rescued and sent to the insane asylum.

In Four Rounds. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., January 23.—The fight to a finish between F. Landau of this place and an unknown, "Danno," which took place at the Salinas Athletic Club-rooms last night, resulted in a victory for Landau in the fourth round.

Died of Pneumonia. SAN FRANCISCO, January 23.—W. J. Keating, Superintendent of the Alameda house of this city and county of San Francisco since 1870, died to-day of pneumonia.

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The horticultural products of the world may be raised on the irrigated small farms of Fresno.

Fresno will not have a club in the baseball league this season. She will have a new line of railroad instead.

Trucks season of which we heard so much a few months ago has not arrived yet. We hope that it will fall to get along before the middle of May.

The new sewer system of this city will soon be ready for testing. Let it be thoroughly tested before the final payment is made on the contract.

"La Grange" is getting in its work in this city quite extensively. Quite a number of cases have developed so far, but no deaths can yet be charged directly to this complaint.

ENTIRELY too much money is sent away from home with which to buy beer for Fresno. Our city must either have a brewery or our citizens must quit drinking so much beer.

DO THE DEMOCRATIC members of the Board of Supervisors of Fresno county believe with their great free trade leader, S. Grover Cleveland, that "a public office is a public trust?"

All of the railroad companies are making arrangements to handle a large westward passenger traffic during February. California will receive a heavy tide of immigration during the spring.

SEVERAL thousand acres of land along Kings river in the thermal belt ought to be set to orange and lemon trees this winter, and as much more ought to be planted with apple trees higher up the river.

ELSEWHERE in this issue appears the semi-annual report of the City Clerk upon the financial condition of the city of Fresno. On the 1st day of the present month the Treasurer laid \$99,352.31 city funds.

SEVERAL California papers have again started an agitation in favor of state division. The state of California is good enough for us as it is, with one exception. The capital should be removed to Fresno, the center of the state.

SMALL farmers will find it more advantageous to grow a variety of fruit than to devote their places all to one kind. If one crop fails either in quantity or price, it is good to have another variety to fall back upon.

CALIFORNIA ranks first among the states of the Union in point of wealth per capita, and Fresno county ranks first among the counties of California in wealth per capita. As our population increases so does our wealth.

THE Spanish Government has taken a very wise and patriotic policy in the monetary in case the young king dies. The Republicans are reported as ready to attempt an overthrow of the Government upon the first favorable opportunity.

PARTIES holding unpaid warrants on any of the road districts of the county should step up to the Treasurer's office and get them cashed. There is plenty of money on hand to meet all claims, and an effort should be made to get it into circulation.

ONE of the fifty-three counties of California has sent Fresno in the strength of their banking institutions, but several of those which probably be passed in the near future. In point of individual deposits only nine counties are ahead of Fresno.

LEADING Democratic journals of New York are not pleased with the Governor's recent message. "It is so largely devoted to the secret ballot system and contains so many arguments against it that it may be aptly styled Hill's Anti-Reform Message."

CHEMISTRY companies are being organized in various counties of the state, and we hope to see one or two commence operations in Fresno. With the colony settlements around this city, the opportunities for such an enterprise are unexcelled elsewhere.

FROM 1884 to 1888 the Republican vote increased 57 per cent, or 1145 in number. The Democratic vote increased in the same time 1118, or 55 per cent over 1884. The Democratic majority amounted to about 350 in the last general election, but it will not be nearly so large this fall.

ORANGE trees are much cheaper this season than heretofore, and we trust that the number planted in Fresno will be correspondingly large. First-class Florida budged stock sold last year from \$1 to \$1.50 per tree according to size and condition. They are now offered at less than half those prices.

THE chairman of a commission sent out by France to report upon the Panama Canal, in a speech delivered at Aspinwall, said the canal will surely be completed. San Francisco capitalists should establish a line of steamers down the coast from that city as far as Chile before a date can be fixed for the completion of the canal.

LAST year 551 cars of green fruit were shipped East. The growers received \$333,220.17 over and above expenses incurred, while the railroad company received \$365,355.53 as freight for carrying the fruit to market. This is not a very encouraging deal from the railroad company.

AMONG all our Democratic exchanges who have been writhing in political agony over the probable seating of two Republican Senators from Montana, we have failed to note one reference to the proposed seating of the Governorship of West Virginia by the Democratic Legislature of that state, now in session.

EVERY third dooryard in Fresno should be a flower garden in which choice varieties bloom every month in the year. The time for setting out flowers and ornamental plants is near at hand, and it is high time for housewives to begin to make up their minds what varieties they are going to ornament their front yards and window boxes with.

### THE RESULT OF PROTECTION.

The United States may now be said to be independent of other countries. Says the Scientific American, both in the mining of its ores for steel and iron and also in the manufacture of the finished product. Heretofore it has been asserted and believed that this country could not furnish the required ore for steel, and that the great demand for this important mineral has stimulated new researches and discoveries, which have been crowned with success.

The Lake Superior region, for example, has been so greatly developed that the larger proportion of the supply now comes from that source.

The output of Superior ore for 1889 is stated to have been seven millions of tons, and the estimate for 1890 is nine millions of tons, of which three millions have already been sold at an advance of 75 cents to \$1.25 per ton above last year's rates. It is understood that the entire product will be taken by Western iron men. This may make almost an ore famine in the East; it is not believed that the Cuban ores can be supplied in sufficient quantity to meet the steel demand of this region. There is hope of steel ores in the Southern States. As for Spain, its whole product of seven and a half millions of tons is required for England, France, Belgium, and Germany. All these countries depend largely upon foreign importation for the best steel ore.

This country alone occupies the satisfactory position of possessing its own steel ore beds. Many of the Southern mines now worked, although yielding excellent ore for iron, contain too much phosphorus for making the best steel. It has, however, been ascertained that the adoption of the basic process, now extensively used in England, the iron from most of the Southern coke furnaces can be made to yield excellent steel. The introduction of the basic process is now in progress at the South and prospects for a large production of good steel in the near future are cheering. In addition to this there are other mines more recently opened that are beginning to furnish first-class steel ores.

The prices of iron and steel have advanced in Europe to a greater extent than in this country, and consequently, except in sailing back orders, there is at present little or no market here for the foreign production. Americans now have almost exclusive possession of the American market. This state of things is likely to continue so long as high prices are kept up in Europe; but when a decline takes place, and English iron-makers are willing to sell without profit, and their steamers return to the old practice bringing over pig iron without charge as ballast, and rails for a trifle above nothing, it is possible they may work into the market again to a small extent.

The great progress which has been made in this country in mine development and in the manufacture of steel and iron will be evident when we consider that it is but little more than twenty years since the manufacture of steel rails was begun in this country. In 1867 our production of steel rails was 100,000 tons, and in 1889 it was 1,000,000 tons, or double the quantity made in England. As to pig iron, we are now producing in the aggregate about eight millions of tons a year, all of which we consume, and England produces about the same, of which she exports much. In steel production the United States is ahead of Great Britain, our production being about three and a half millions of tons per annum against three and a quarter millions for England. As for iron, our product is also much larger than that of the royal kingdom, ours being about two and a half millions of tons against one million eight hundred thousand tons English production.

The advanced prices for iron and steel are having a bad effect upon the British shipbuilders, and unless a lowering soon comes, many of them will suffer loss on existing contracts.

### NO ASSISTANCE ASKED.

Senator Blair will no doubt introduce his educational bill in Congress again this winter, says the New York Star. It has been defeated in the past because it established a dangerous precedent, and encouraged a spirit of dependency on the Government by the states that was unwise and likely to produce very unfortunate results. It should not be allowed to become a law now, because if there ever was a time when the Southern states needed such assistance to educate their illiterate children and citizens, it has long since passed.

The Southern States are perfectly able to maintain all the schools they need. They may have been poor and impoverished just after the war, but they have long ago grown out of any poverty. In proof of that fact, the statement of Albert J. Russell, the Superintendent of Education in Florida, as to what has been done in that state in improving the schools, is of value. Florida furnishes a fair example of the progress of the South during the last decade. It has not had that wonderful growth that has taken place in Georgia and the northern part of Alabama, nor has it remained so nearly stationary as Mississippi and Louisiana.

According to Mr. Russell, the number of schools in Florida has increased from 1131 in 1880, the year in which Senator Blair first introduced his bill, to 2210 in 1889. The school attendance during the same time has doubled, although the number of children of school age has only increased one-half. The value of school property has increased in still greater proportion, and the amount expended for this maintenance has quadrupled. All this is aided by a state tax, and Mr. Russell announces that not only does Florida not need any national assistance, but he believes that the Blair bill would have the most woeful results.

If Florida does not want national assistance, what is the sense of trying to force it upon her? Arkansas presents the same testimony as to her public schools, and in the other states, where the showing is not so satisfactory, it is simply owing to a lack of interest in the matter in the past, and not in any degree to their poverty. There is scarcely a Southern state in which the public school system does not show substantial progress.

It begins to look as though Congress will be forced to take action on the question of requiring the Superintendent of Census to include in the forthcoming

statistics some definite information about farm mortgages. It was an oversight in the first place to omit a provision requiring this work to be done. It is not too late to remedy the matter, however, and as the Farmers' Alliance and other organized agricultural societies are clamoring for it, the work will probably be ordered done.

### ENGLISH AGGRESSION.

Perhaps the most serious question with which the American people are now confronted is the tendency of foreign capital to gain control of the leading industries of this country. At one time in the nation's history not more than twenty-three years ago, nineteen-twentieths of the interest-bearing bonds covering our national indebtedness were held by foreign money lenders or their accredited agents in this country. The great balance of trade in favor of the United States during the past ten years, together with the payment of two-thirds of the interest-bearing debt, and the refunding of other portions of it, have changed the order of things existing in 1860, and to-day we find nineteen-tenths of our interest-bearing debt held in the United States.

The money formerly invested in national bonds is now being forced to seek other fields for profitable investment, and the action of English syndicates moving toward the monopolization of American manufactures and the great productive industries of this country is something which can be only regarded with the utmost concern. This scheme of wealthy foreigners to secure control of the principal business enterprises of the United States has progressed steadily since the first movement in that direction. The great anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania are owned and worked under the direction of the Rothschilds. Nearly all of the principal tineries of New England, New York and the Middle States are owned by citizens of England. Only last fall another British syndicate added the largest and finest steel and iron plant in Ohio, located in the city of Cleveland, to their property interests previously purchased. And this reminds us that is not Northern capital alone that is seeking investment in the Southern States. The greater portion of the stock in the Birmingham coal and iron mines, and the manufacturing located there, is in the hands of British speculators.

The great flouring mills of Minnesota, property worth from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000, are in the hands of corporations with headquarters either in Liverpool or London. And last, but not least, the principal breweries of Cincinnati and St. Louis have been jockeyed up in the same manner, and negotiations are on looking to the purchase of the leading brewery on the Pacific Coast by the same largely syndicate. English capital is also greatly interested in the mines of Colorado, New Mexico and California, and some of the finest pieces of vineyard property of this state are also owned by non-residents.

These great industries upon American soil will only add to England's wealth as a nation and to that of her citizens as individuals. It is high time that Americans were awaking to a realization of the wide difference which exists between having our industries in the hands of our own citizens, whose interests are closely allied to our national prosperity, or in the hands of aliens who care nothing for them beyond what profit can be realized from them and the additional prosperity that they will give in England. England would like to rule the world, and her true-born sons are equally ambitious. There could hardly be a better method contrived for the complete subjugation of a people than complete control of its great industrial resources.

The general government has more interest in checking this aggression than the states, and yet it has ignored the matter entirely so far, while several states, notably Illinois and Michigan, have undertaken to combat the evil on their own account. The wealth and future prosperity of the American nation rests in the hands of its people, but if they continue to surrender their property interests to aliens it is only a question of time when aliens will own the entire country, and then we may reasonably expect them to assume the responsibility of running the government.

### EXTRAVAGANT OFFICIALS.

Perhaps it is not inappropriate at this time to call the attention of taxpayers to the beauties of bus rule. We presume that every intelligent person realizes that our taxes are largely in excess of what they ought to be, and that those just paid are much higher than they were a year ago. Bad as the case now is, it is likely to grow worse in this country unless the private citizen throws off the party yoke, which now makes him the slave of the horse, and asserts his independence at the polls. Last winter we sent a class of men to the Legislature who were, as a rule, incompetent to attend to their own business, yet they served the purposes of the boss better perhaps than if they had been steamboats of the first order. San Francisco is the home of the boss, and the greater portion of the black sheep, but their number was largely increased from the interior. But in reflecting upon this matter Fresno county taxpayers must not forget to take credit where it is due. The Legislature is not justly chargeable with the entire increase in taxation in this county. To our Board of Supervisors a portion of it belongs, and it is only justice to the individual members that the Board be given all credit that is now due or may hereafter become due. Twelve hundred dollars a year is given to the county physician, not because he needs it, but for the good of the party, we suppose. If this money was applied to enforcing the law against the importation and sale of sealion, it would derive some benefit from it. If the Supervisors would reject justices of the peace to allow no jury trials in vagrancy cases, another much needed reform would follow. Our county government is needlessly extravagant in many ways, and conspicuously parsimonious in others.

It has been suggested that the Legislature be convened each alternate winter for the purpose of repealing the useless and antiquated laws which now encumber our statute books. The idea is not a bad one, and if the powers of the Legislature were restricted to simply repealing obsolete and inoperative sections, no particular damage could result.

### PROHIBITION IMPRACTICABLE.

Prohibition as a political issue, as gone to the wall. It reached the 10th of its glory when St. John carried its banner in a Presidential campaign which resulted in the defeat of a statesman and the election of a free trade tool of the money power centered in Wall street as President of the United States. Since that time the party that adopted prohibition in Kansas and Iowa has come to take a more sensible view of the question. It is found upon a closer examination of the prohibition question that ground has been occupied, by force of numbers, in the two states above named, that is untenable. The majority have a right to govern, but they have not the right to engraft upon the pages of our statute books what the mass of law-abiding men will wear, eat or drink. They may declare a penalty for any indulgence of the fancy of either taste in dress or of appetite, but even the majority of the people of a state cannot forbid the use of any kind of edibles, wearing apparel or drinks. A tax may be levied upon the sale or upon the use of any commodity, but the positive forbidding of sale or use of any article is un-American, is contrary to the leading spirit prevailing throughout the country, and is a direct attack upon the foundations of the government itself.

The people of Iowa have arrived at this conclusion. Nine years ago the Republican majority in that state was a little over 50,000. The Republican party endorsed prohibition as a party measure, voted it upon the people of Iowa, and have earnestly endeavored to enforce it. But the leaders of the party see their error now. A majority of 50,000 has faded year by year, until the chamois was reached last fall by the election of a Democratic Governor by a majority of about 7000, while the Legislature is a tie politically, with a good working majority against prohibition. The result is easily foretold. Licensed saloons will again be opened in every important city in Iowa, but we may also expect very stringent laws governing the sale and use of liquor. This will be right, and such laws will be respected by the people. The lesson learned by the Republican party of Iowa in other states, and it is said to say that prohibition will not be again championed by either of the old political parties.

### COAST DEFENSE.

It is to be hoped, says the San Francisco Examiner, that the bill appropriating money for the defense of this port, introduced into Congress by Senator Stanford and Representatives Clinch and Morrow, will receive more attention than similar measures have been given in the past. The bill appropriates some \$25,000,000 for a gun foundry, guns and defensive works—\$1,000,000 for the fort, \$350,000 for sites and repairs, \$200,000 for torpedoes, \$13,473,000 for high-power coast defense guns, \$2,650,000 for mortars, \$1,625,000 for gun and mortar carriages, and \$5,885,000 for forts, gun turrets, etc.

The unprotected condition of San Francisco has been set forth too often to need dwelling upon. There hangs high over our earthwork here that would cost a five minutes' fire, and not a gun that could be used with effect against an ordinary man-of-war. In case of hostilities the city and harbor could be occupied by the enemy without great difficulty. With the only harbor for large vessels for hundreds of miles along the coast, and the chief city of the Pacific in possession of the enemy, the disadvantage of the present economy in defenses would be severely felt.

Congress is doubtless more willing than heretofore to provide for the defense of the coast. The continued agitation of the subject for a decade has had its effect. It took years to rouse Congress to the importance of building a navy, but both houses are now willing to make appropriations for ships as fast as the money can be used. The work of getting fortifications has been more difficult, and it is doubtful if even now a complete scheme of defense will receive any consideration. If a beginning of fortification is made, however, the work should be thorough. There will be no half way measure about the attempt to batter the forts and guns to pieces if we get into a war with a first-class power. At present the seaboard cities are at the mercy of foreign fleets, and even the navy, of which we are so proud, could be captured and turned against us for the want of having defended ports into which the ships might retire in the face of overwhelming force.

SENATOR Congress adopt the report of the Naval Board which was appointed to formulate plans for building a new navy, the United States will become a naval power of considerable magnitude at the end of half a dozen years. The Board recommends twenty-two different sizes and styles of vessels, and favors the building of from three to fifteen vessels of each class, the whole number 60 to be about 150, and the estimated cost \$280,000,000. Ten of these vessels are to be first-class battle ships of 10,000 tons displacement each, armed with 100-ton rifled guns, capable of sending a steel bolt through thirty inches of steel plating. Twenty will be of 7000 and 8000 tons displacement, five of 6000 tons, and ten runs of 5000 tons, all heavily armored. There will also be twenty four armored cruisers of from 4000 to 7000 tons each, to have a speed of from 19 to 22 knots an hour, and all provided with the latest and most effective weapons, including torpedoes and dynamite guns. The Secretary of the Navy asks Congress to provide means for the immediate construction of eight of the heaviest battle ships, and fifteen sea-going torpedo vessels. Citizens of every section of the Union will watch the action of Congress with interest.

The Los Angeles Times gives expression to the proper sentiment when it says: "People in considering the current necessary for stock are apt to assume that because we have no freezing weather here the stock needs little or no protection. But isn't it likely that the lower animals, like man, get 'thin-blooded' in a warm climate, and so are more sensitive to cold than if braced up annually by the rigorous winters of the East? Everybody knows that people soon get so sensitive as to feel keenly a degree of cold away above the freezing point, and to be shivering around on a day that the newly-arrived Englishmen

considers warm and comfortable. So it is not unlikely that a Southern California horse stable in a temperature that would be luxurious recreation to the rugged roaster of New England. One thing certain, comfort pays in all animal life, and the thrifty owner will not let his stock suffer, either from motive of humanity or policy."

### PROTECT THE PRUNE.

Some of the great San Francisco dealers have become interested in the question of how to best encourage the production of prunes in California. The Chronicle favors and the Alta opposes the imposition of a duty of 3 cents per pound on prunes. It is the old, old story, says the Tribune Register, and the old arguments are pushed into line on either side. At present the United States consumes forty million pounds of prunes each year, of which California produces only three million pounds, and the present rate of duty is 1 cent per pound. Now it cannot be denied that pruning in California is very profitable at present prices, but there have been fluctuations in times past, and times when the business was not so profitable.

French growers and American importers are just beginning to feel competition with the California article, and all they need is a little more. To discourage the planting of prunes in California, will they not be likely to drop prices just enough, temporarily, to check planting? To do so would be to do a common, ordinary act of self-preservation, and we believe it will be done and the "sneaking" knocked out of the prune business.

Now we come to a point in favor of the protection idea that even protectionists do not place enough stress upon, and free traders never refer to, viz: That a protective tariff gives stability to prices and makes business enterprises safe. One who sets out a prune orchard must wait five years before he can receive much of a return for his outlay, and to warrant the investment he should be assured that prices will remain stable. We believe that an increase of 2 cents per pound in import duty would accomplish this result and without increasing prices materially to the consumer, or if it did increase prices temporarily it would stimulate prune planting all the more and speed the day when California will supply the home market with prunes.

It may be the Alta says that the California prune can meet the French article upon an equal footing and yet drive the invader out, but if that end can be accomplished without bearing any breast to such a war, the better for California prune-growers and for the country at large, for the sooner will the three million dollars we annually send abroad for prunes be kept at home—yes, kept in California. In view of these facts we may protect the prune.

The Kings River railroad will open up one of the grandest sections in the state. There are thousands of acres along the river that may be irrigated, and the soil is principally a rich, red loam. The thriving orange orchards now growing at different places along the valley show that orange-growing will be an important industry. The road will add greatly to the value of all land tributary to it. There is timber enough within reach of the road to insure freight for years to come, to say nothing of the mineral output. The scenery along the route will make the road known as the scenic line of the West. It is not at all unlikely that it will at no distant day become a link in a transcontinental road.

Our indication of the relative size of Merced as compared to Fresno is found in the number of teachers employed in the public schools of the two cities. Merced employs six teachers, while Fresno employs twenty-seven, and the schools of this city are so badly overcrowded that another schoolhouse to accommodate at least 400 pupils will be necessary before the commencement of next term. Two such schoolhouses were erected last year, but they only met the requirements of the city at the date of their completion. Even Selma, in Fresno county, employs eight teachers in her public school. Irrigation is the cause.

The Board of Education of San Francisco has caused a panic among the suburban of the metropolis by asking the Board of Supervisors of that city to appropriate \$125,000 for the purpose of rebuilding the girls' high school building recently destroyed by fire. The old building was valued at \$30,000 and was about twenty-five years behind the present times in style of architecture and accommodations. The sum asked for is not exorbitant, and if the Supervisors appropriate less than \$100,000 they will vote themselves mossbacks and sluffers who are opposed to keeping up with cities of less than one-third the population of San Francisco.

Pacific Coast Republicans are evidently settling their petty disputes one at a time. W. H. Sears has been appointed Collector of Internal Revenue of the first district of California. The appointment of Deputy Collector, Gauger and Storekeeper at Fresno will now follow. The choice of Republicans of this community for these positions are, as nearly as we can ascertain, J. W. Conger for Deputy Collector, H. E. Boothby for Gauger, and Dr. Glas Phipps for Storekeeper. They are all well known, honorable and competent gentlemen, true blue Republicans and will render efficient service if appointed.

The American member of the Board of Supervisors of Fresno county evidently believes in fancy salaries for county officials. We are led to infer as much by his vote to pay the county physician \$250 per month. In other words, Mr. Raynor voted with Messrs. White, Dannigan and Letcher, the three Democratic members, to pay Dr. Letcher \$250 a month for services that equally competent physicians stand ready to perform at \$150 a month. This means that the taxpayers must pay \$1200 during the present year for which they receive absolutely nothing.

Monks rain has fallen to date the present season than ever before known in the history of Fresno. A better opportunity for bringing wild land under cultivation will probably not occur for many years to come. Parties owning plain lands that has never been plowed should get it plowed and seeded at once. A good crop of hay or grain will almost surely be realized.

### PETITION THE BOSS.

It is little use for one fruit-grower to spray his trees and vines and keep up a fight against the spread of insect pests if his neighbors neglect to do likewise. One single infested orchard, allowed to remain unmolested in season and out, will neutralize the efforts of adjoining orchardists in fighting the pest. And this is the condition of affairs in Fresno county to-day. The Legislature delegated to the various Boards of Supervisors of the several counties all necessary power to remedy this state of affairs, but here in Fresno county none, above all other places in the state, one more naturally looks for a rigid enforcement of the law, it is permitted to remain practically a dead letter.

If there were no other indications that the majority of the members of the Board of Supervisors of Fresno county are "in the hands of their friends," their action in this matter has been sufficient to partially open the eyes of the people. The fact of the matter is, the majority of our Supervisors are too often guided in their official action more by the advice of influential political friends than by their own conception of public interests. The attention of the Supervisors has been too fully occupied of late with county hospital and other matters of the greatest importance to individuals, hence they have not bestowed that attention upon the matter of fruit pests that fruit-growers naturally expected. Now that the Board has officially decided to pay the present county physician \$1200 more per year than other equally competent gentlemen have signified a willingness to perform the work for, we shall accept the situation in so far as the hospital management is concerned until the people pass judgment upon it at the polls in November. But the Board must now go upon record in regard to fruit pests. The scale and other pests are gradually spreading from tree to tree and orchard to orchard. Having the authority to cause a successful war to be waged, that will not only stay the ravages of the pests, but also result in their extinction in a few years, the Board must shoulder the responsibility of their past and present inactivity.

The first step should be to have numerous copies of the law printed, with the announcement that certain officials (the county horticultural commissioners) have been appointed to enforce the law. Sufficient funds should be provided to properly enforce the provisions of the law in regard to importing and selling infested fruit and fruit trees. Also in regard to spraying trees where the scale or other insect has gained a foothold. This matter is of far greater importance to the taxpayers of Fresno county than who is going to be the Democratic nominee for State Senator from this district, and the Supervisors will do well to give it some of their attention.

### SPRAY YOUR TREES.

Fruit-growers should now give their undivided attention to their trees and vines. Prune vines and trees for wood and symmetry, and older ones for fruit. Branches cut off should all be carefully removed to a vacant piece of ground, and as soon as sufficiently dry should be burned. All dead weeds, or refuse of whatsoever nature capable of affording refuge to insect pests, should also be removed and burned. After pruning the orchard and removing all trash, get out the spraying apparatus and give each and every tree a good cleansing.

The pear orchards of Fresno county have suffered more severely than any other variety of fruit from the ravages of the scale insect, but peach and apricot orchards have also suffered severely. The cottony cushion scale has done most of the damage, but is easily combated where spraying is resorted to. The red scale is more troublesome and requires greater effort to rid an orchard of it where once well established. This pest first appeared in California in Orange county, on trees imported from Australia, and from that point has gradually spread over almost the entire coast. Its presence does not become known as readily as the black or white varieties, and it is more to be dreaded by fruit-growers on this account. It is able to elude for months both the naked eye and the microscope, but can be readily disposed of while in this stage of its growth by the application of proper remedies. Orchardists in this county should wage a vigorous war on insects this spring, and rid their trees as far as possible of all pests. It is now time to begin this work.

DAVID B. HILL is aiming to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, S. Grover Cleveland, and step from the Governorship of New York into the Presidency of the United States. An acknowledged machine politician of the worst kind from the slums of New York City, a man who owes his election to his present position to methods so corrupt as to bring the blush of shame even to members of the Tammany organization, and one who has obstructed the passage or vetoed every reform bill that has come before the Legislature of New York while he has been Governor, Mr. Hill now has the inconsistency to make a show of advocating a change in the election laws of the Empire State with a view to purifying the ballot. In the same effusion he takes occasion to denounce the Australian system as a humbug. The state document above referred to, taken in connection with Mr. Hill's record, brands him as a humbug of the first magnitude.

THE almost incredible number of 247,000 oranges were on exhibition at the citrus fair in Oroville, says the Red Bluff Sentinel, all from the northern citrus belt—but not one-thirtieth part of them were raised there. The citrus fruit-growers of that section of the state do not understand how to attract attention. Why do you not pool your issues, either a train load of oranges and ship them East all at once, quickly putting an agent of the Associated Press on to the item? The northern citrus belt would no longer be a theory, it would be a solid fact.

FROM 1875 to 1889 Fresno county increased her taxable wealth from \$6,354,596 to \$25,384,173, or 456 per cent. But three other counties in the state made as large a proportionate increase—San Bernardino, San Diego and Los Angeles. San Francisco valuation only increased 19 per cent in that time.

MENACE suffered severe loss by fire last Friday morning. Owing to the frightful condition of the streets, the fire de-

partment was at a great disadvantage, though good service was rendered after the engine got into position. Fresno is at a great disadvantage on account of the muddy condition of her principal streets where they have not yet been paved, and a big fire would demonstrate this fact very clearly.

### FUTURE OF THE FIG.

Fig culture in California is rapidly assuming an importance among fruit-growers exceeded only by oranges and raisins. The surveys attained by local fruit-growers in curing and packing figs has stimulated others to engage in the business, and the result will be the planting of several hundred acres to fig trees near Fresno this season. The growth of interest in fig culture is not confined to this section, however. Even the metropolitan dailies are interested, and a recent number of the Call contains the following commendable article:

The report on fig culture which was read a few weeks since at the meeting of the State Horticultural Society ought to be published in a pamphlet form and distributed in all the counties where fig culture is being attempted. For it contains information which is not only new, but of the highest importance. It seems that the committee believes in spite of all the efforts which have been made to secure the right kind of fig trees and the large amount of money which have been spent to import them, that there is still an uncertainty upon the subject. We have good trees, some of which are called Smyrns and some Adriatics. They produce excellent figs, which, when properly prepared and packed, compare favorably with the best Smyrns figs. It is generally understood in this state that fig trees should begin to bear in their second year and should yield a full crop in their fourth. But in Smyrnia the best trees which produce the fig of commerce, do not bear a full crop till they are eight or ten years old. We are so impatient a people that many fig growers may have chafed at so long a delay and have cut down excellent trees.

In figs, as in every kind of fruit, we must, if we want to succeed, produce the best, and nothing but the best—the second best is not worth growing at all. There are growers at the East who deal in imported figs. Some of them exhibit in their sample rooms handsome beautiful, clear, luscious-looking Smyrns figs, and, beside them, bags of small, black figs, labeled—"Here's your California article!" That is considered fair, for every one looks out for himself; but it will be our fault in a few years from now if we do not beat the Turks in figs, as we are beating the Spaniards in raisins and the French in prunes. We have the soil and the climate to do it; all we want is the requisite knowledge of the industry.

Dried figs would be even a larger source of income than raisins. The United States imports, one year within another, 10,000,000 pounds of dried figs annually from Europe. There is a constantly increasing demand for the fruit. Its medicinal properties, which were known to the old practitioners, are now better realized than they used to be. Periodical use of the dried fig, either in the shape of a pudding or a dessert fruit, in a preservation against many annoying maladies. When California is able to ship 4000 or 5000 tons of dried figs each winter to the East the consumption will probably be larger than it is.

THE REPUBLICAN has again been complimented by some stirring remarks from the Mercury Mercury. It has been said that the good will of a dog is to be preferred rather than his enmity, but we take it that the truth of the axiom depends largely on the character of the dog. The ill will of a vicious, sheep-killing cur may be unpleasant at times, but the friendship of the brute necessarily creates a suspicion that is a great deal worse than his back or bite. The Mercury was so fortunate as to incur the enmity of the Mercury shortly after its inception, and the lucky star of this paper being in the ascendant this ill will has been retained up to date. The dislike of the Mercury dates back to the time that a bill was sent to its publisher for work done by this office. But the Mercury and its methods are too well known to require comment. Republican candidates who have needed to the demands of the Mercury Judas understand definitely what a great many people understand in a general way.

SO LONG as THE REPUBLICAN earns the opposition of people and papers of the Mercury stripe it can rest secure in the confidence of honest, law-abiding people.

A NEW method of handling the Japanese persimmon has lately come to our notice which, if correct, will greatly enlarge the possibility of marketing that excellent fruit. The San Francisco Chronicle speaks of the matter thus: "Very few people are aware of the fact that the Japanese persimmon, when dried, is one of the most delicious fruits imaginable. Those who are acquainted with this fruit know that it must be fully ripe when picked, otherwise the flavor will not be what it should. But the perfectly ripe persimmon is difficult of handling without damage, and therefore a considerable loss is apt to result. Experiments made, however, show that the Japanese persimmon may be dried as readily as a fig."

Why should we not make another effort to secure to Fresno the advantages of a terminal point? If the citizens of Fresno present the claims of the city now, we believe the Southern Pacific will acknowledge them. This city gives the railroad more business than any other point in the state outside of Los Angeles and San Francisco. Why should we not enjoy equal facilities with Sacramento, Stockton, San Jose, San Diego, Colton and other places of far less importance? The present Secretary of the Treasury shows a disposition to treat the Pacific Coast more liberally than any of his predecessors. He recommends the increase in the appropriation for a public building at Los Angeles from \$100,000 to \$500,000, and for like purpose at Sacramento from \$150,000 to \$350,000. The Government should erect buildings at San Diego, Oakland, San Jose, Stockton and Fresno to cost, together with site, not less than \$200,000 each.

THE Republican party is continually gaining strength in Fresno county, and in 1892 the Republican party will have a majority.

### DETAILS WANTED.

Rev. Mr. Orison gave his female hearers some good advice last night, says the San Francisco Record of Monday. He said it was a woman's duty to herself and to society, no matter what means for self-support she might have, to learn some business, trade, profession or pursuit thoroughly and not in a mere amuseur way, so that should she be thrown upon her own resources she would be able to make a living. But we doubt not that there are many girls and young women who understand this as well as Mr. Orison does, yet do not know how to go about it. They would like Mr. Orison to come down to details, and we would like to see him do it, too. In his next discourse Mr. Orison should mention a few of the trades, how to go about securing instruction in them, what said instruction would cost, in time and money, and what the chances of remuneration would be after the trade had been learned. These are the practical considerations. There are some trades and occupations that are thoroughly enjoyable, unless the tradeswoman, so to call her, be a first-class worker, and of course Mr. Orison would not have a young woman learn a trade in which the average worker could not expect to earn a living. For example, unless a woman be a first-class embroiderer, lacemaker, decorator, musician, etc., she would be nowhere; and occupations like typewriting and telegraphy are overdone. There are other occupations which require considerable bodily strength. There are others in which the woman could not obtain entrance without social or political influence. So it would not be wise for a young woman to make up her mind what her trade or pursuit should be without first ascertaining the difficulties to be met and her chances







